

ANNEX

SELECTED COMMENTS ON COUNTERACTION OF THE SEVENTH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL

Soviet Press

Izvestiya, 1 August

"Who is organizing antifestival and anti-Soviet propaganda, and who is arranging and staging various kinds of provocative incidents in Vienna? Everyone knows. An 'American Information Center' has been set up ... It is a branch of the so-called 'Independent Information Service for the Vienna Youth Festival,' located in Massachusetts, USA. Anti-festival and anti-Soviet literature in English is stored at this center."

Pravda, 30 July

"It should be said that the US 'tourists' who are flooding Vienna and who can easily be identified as State Department agents take the delegates from Africa and Asia by the hand and, in a hypocritical manner, try to 'protect them from Communist propaganda', and tell them all kinds of fables."

U. S. Congress

Following are comments by four Senators in letters to the Independent Service for Information on the Vienna Youth Festival:

"It is my opinion that the contribution of the Independent Service in Vienna was directly responsible for opening the eyes of many delegates from the neutral and uncommitted nations of the world. I would like to personally congratulate you on the excellent job that the Service did and will be most pleased to receive and to study any final report that you may publish on the Festival and American participation in it."

John Marshall Butler (Rep. Maryland)

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**"I was delighted to receive your good letter with the enclosed publications that were distributed by Americans at the World Youth Festival in Vienna. I very much enjoyed reading this interesting material. Your group appears to have done a great job."**

**Vance Hartha (Dem, Indiana)**

**"Thank you for your thoughtful courtesy in sending me the several booklets published by the Independent Service for Information on the Vienna Youth Festival."**

**"It is very encouraging to see the youth of America taking such an interest in giving the youth of the communist countries the correct information about the many facets of life in the United States."**

**Lyndon B. Johnson (Dem, Texas)**

**"Certainly we must recognize that the Communists are constantly at work all over the world, and the work being done by young Americans to combat the Communist propaganda is most important."**

**Stuart Symington (Dem, Texas)**

**Excerpt from the Report of the United Kingdom Ambassador to Austria**

**"The main Western counter-offensive to the Festival came from America and Britain, between whom there was close and effective cooperation over a long preparatory period, and much of what was done would not have been possible without the generous resources which the Americans were prepared to expend. As the Festival approached, useful working cooperation was established also with the Missions of the other NATO countries. More could no doubt have been done to impair the success of the Festival, particularly by following the American example in introducing reliable elements into delegations. ..."**

**Foreign Non-Communist Press**

**Manila Bulletin, 21 August (editorial)**

**"The Festival was one of the worst propaganda fops of the decade for the Communists, ... the so-called Festival was the first of its kind held outside the Iron Curtain and probably will be the last."**

**SECRET**

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**The Economist, London, 2 August**

"By now the serious young men in Budapest, Prague and Moscow, who tried hard to organize pleasure and edification for the not-so-serious young from all over the world, will be holding the inevitable post mortem on their efforts. It is likely that the unrest among students in Warsaw and Moscow that followed the last two rallies there was one of the reasons that made them look to Austria for hospitality. But their experience in Vienna has probably taught them that on neutral or hostile ground, the effort and money involved in this propaganda exercise are liable to go unrewarded. Peking ought to be safer."

**The Eastern Economist, New Delhi, 17 July**

"The Congress (party) High Command's decision not to allow the All-Indian Youth Congress to participate in the Seventh World Youth Festival to be held in August this year, though belated deserves praise. It shows its growing awareness of the dangers of Communist infiltration through allegedly cultural and non-political conferences.... (T)he Youth Festival is a vehicle of Communist propaganda"...

**U. S. Press**

**Wall Street Journal, 25 August (William Henry Chamberlin)**

"This old imperial city, which twice turned back the conquering armies of the Ottoman Turks from its walls, has recently repulsed with equal success a subtler form of invasion from the East. The Seventh Communist World Youth Festival 'for peace and friendship', which went on for ten days this summer proved a colossal flop, from the standpoint of its Red organizers."

**U. S. News and World Report, 10 August**

"The first world youth festival held outside the Iron Curtain fell short of its planners' goal - a showpiece of Marxist sentiment. Non-Communist youths scored again and again in free-for-all debate. Austrian boycotts, counter-propaganda and some fights marred the fun."

**SECRET**

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